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|--|--|------------------------|-------------------|
| | | Application Number | 10/621,114 |
| | | Filing Date | July 14, 2003 |
| | | First Named Inventor | Louis K. SCHEFFER |
| | | Art Unit | 2825 |
| | | Examiner Name | Not Yet Assigned |
| Total Number of Pages in This Submission | | Attorney Docket Number | CA7035292001 |

ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)

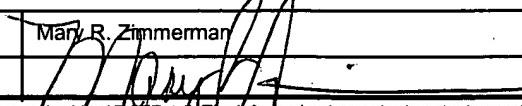
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| <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached | <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers | <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53 | | |
| Remarks | | |

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

| | |
|-------------------------|---|
| Firm or Individual name | Peter C. Mei Bingham McCutchen LLP |
| Signature |  |
| Date | June 24, 2004 |

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below.

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| Typed or printed name | Mary R. Zimmerman |
| Signature |  |
| Date | June 24, 2004 |

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

~~In re~~ the Application of:

Louis K. SCHEFFER et al.

Serial No.: 10/621,114

Filed: July 14, 2003

**For: METHOD FOR CREATING
PATTERNS FOR PRODUCING
INTEGRATED CIRCUIT**

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-identified application, please amend the application as follows.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 3 of this paper.

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace paragraph 0059 commencing at page 14, with the following:

[0059] Additional examples of mask writing processes that are improved using the context based methods disclosed herein are found in co-pending U.S. Appl. Ser. No. ~~XX/XXX,XXX~~ 10/620,285, Attorney Docket Number CA7010492001, filed July 14, 2003, entitled METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR CONTEXT-SPECIFIC MASK WRITING, which is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety. In addition to mask writing, the context analysis methods disclosed herein may be used to perform mask inspection methods, such as those described in co-pending U.S. Appl. Ser. No. ~~XX/XXX,XXX~~ 10/620,284, Attorney Docket Number CA7010502001, filed July 14, 2003, entitled METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR CONTEXT-SPECIFIC MASK INSPECTION, which is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety.

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request that the foregoing amendments be entered before examination of the above-identified application. If the Examiner has any questions or comments, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at the number listed below.

If the Commissioner determines that additional fees are due or that an excess fee has been paid, the Patent Office is authorized to debit or credit (respectively) Deposit Account No.

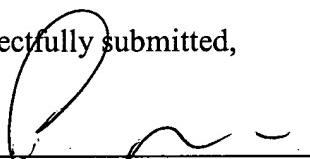
50-2518, billing reference no. 7035292001.

Date:

6/24/84

Respectfully submitted,

By:


Peter C. Mei

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